

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 80

By Woodson

A RESOLUTION to honor Dr. David L. Eubanks as he delivers his final Homecoming sermon as President of Johnson Bible College.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those committed ministers of the Gospel and talented college administrators who in their years of service have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Dr. David L. Eubanks is one such estimable person who has served with acumen and alacrity, and with great devotion to God and humanity, as President of Johnson Bible College since 1969; and

WHEREAS, the distinguished Dr. Eubanks will deliver his final Homecoming sermon as President on Wednesday, February 21; throughout the celebratory evening, Dr. Eubanks will be joined by his wife, Margaret Eubanks, as well as his current students, alumni, honorary alumni, and special friends; and

WHEREAS, a native of Maryville, Dr. Eubanks is a graduate of Johnson Bible College and the University of Tennessee; he was a member of the Johnson faculty for eleven years before being elevated to that institution's Presidency; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Eubanks's astute leadership, the college has continued to develop within the context of its historic mission and purpose; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Eubanks has worked tirelessly and with purpose and commitment to meet the needs of the College's students and, consequently, throughout his tenure as President, the college has witnessed tremendous growth; and

WHEREAS, student enrollment at Johnson Bible College has steadily and progressively grown; in the fall of 2006, enrollment reached 876, nearly doubling in the last ten years, and, in the class of 2006, a record number of 191 graduates received degrees; and

WHEREAS, more than one million dollars in scholarships were awarded just last year to needy and deserving students; these scholarships are in addition to the Pell grants and student loans; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the visionary leadership of Dr. Eubanks, the number of faculty and staff at the college have grown, as have the undergraduate program offerings; the college has achieved regional and professional accreditation and graduate, distance learning, and degree completion programs have been added; and

WHEREAS, the Johnson Bible College physical plant has also greatly improved during Dr. Eubanks's illustrious presidency; the College has completed a campus improvement plan which included the construction of the Phillips-Welshimer Building, the Alva Ross Brown Hall for men, the Emma Johnson Hall for women, the Eubanks Activities Center, married student housing, faculty housing, the enlargement of Glass Memorial Library, and other additions; and

WHEREAS, the college campus has also seen improvements in technology; all faculty members are provided a computer and new infrastructure allows for campus-wide computer accessibility; and

WHEREAS, in 2000-2001, two new men's and women's residence halls were completed, housing a total of 576 students; in 2001, a Global/Education/Technology Building welcomed its first occupants and, in 2004, the Marriage and Family Therapy Counseling Center opened its doors; and

WHEREAS, The Gally Center, which includes a new dining hall, post office, and bookstore, is scheduled for completion in July of 2007; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable tenure as President of Johnson Bible College, Dr. David L. Eubanks has demonstrated a remarkable ability to motivate others to reach their potential, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the school's faculty, staff, and students alike; as a beloved leader, he ministered to his flock with great love and compassion, striving daily to faithfully carry out God's will for the world; and

WHEREAS, recognized as a leader among his peers, Dr. Eubanks is now concluding his second term as President of the Association for Biblical Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, David L. Eubanks exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; his dedication to his Lord and his involvement with improving the human condition through education are hallmarks of his life of commitment and achievement; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Dr. David L. Eubanks as he delivers his final Homecoming sermon as President of Johnson Bible College and join with his wife, his friends, his students, his alumni, and his colleagues in thanking him for his dedicated and fruitful service to the College. We also extend to Dr. Eubanks our best wishes for every success and satisfaction in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.